

Response to Indicator (d)(12)

Indicate, for each charter school that has closed (including a school that was not reauthorized to operate) within each of the last five years, whether the closure of the school was for financial, enrollment, academic, or other reasons.

Accountability

Accountability is one of the cornerstones of the national charter school initiative. Connecticut's charter school law and the Accountability Plan administered by the CSDE require charter schools to demonstrate their success and compliance with the law in exchange for autonomy from local boards of education. While the majority of Connecticut charter schools have proven to be successful models of alternative public education, there have been some that have struggled and some that have closed their operations.

Since 1999, five state charter schools have closed:

- Village Academy's (New Haven) charter was revoked by the SBE in the first week of school in 1999-00 due to the schools failure to comply with health and safety laws;
- Ancestors Community High School (Waterbury) relinquished its charter to the SBE at the end of school year 2000-01 citing insufficient funds to operate the program;
- Charter Oak Preparatory Academy (New Britain/Hartford) relinquished its charter to the SBE on February 1, 2002 citing insufficient funds to operate the program;
- Brooklawn Academy's charter (Bridgeport/Fairfield) was not renewed by the SBE in 2003 due to its failure to demonstrate sufficient student progress; and
- Cross Cultural Academy of Arts and Technology relinquished its charter to the SBE on May 25, 2007, citing insufficient funds to operate the program.
- Charter School For Young Children On Asylum Hill (CSYCAH) relinquished its charter to the SBE at the end of the 2010-11 school year and transitioned into the Museum Academy Magnet School, which opened for the 2011-12 school year.

Like state charter schools, local charter schools are chartered by the SBE. However, local charter schools are funded by the district, not by the state. Based on a mutual agreement with the CSDE, one local charter school, Coventry Science Center Charter School, returned its charter before the 1999-00 school year. Two local charter schools in Hartford (Breakthrough and Sport Science Academy) transitioned to magnet schools in 2002-03. The nonviability of the local charter concept is largely based on funding entirely appropriated by the local school district.